Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 AID-05 /096 W

----- 123478

R 061620Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7345

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MO SS SP MR AG FR

- 1. PRIMIN OSMAN BEGINS LONG-PLANNED OFFICIAL VISIT TO PARIS JAN. 7, PRESUMABLY IN PREPARATION FOR KING HASSAN'S EXPECTED RETURN VISIT TO GISCARD BILLED TO OCCUR BEFORE END OF MARCH (RABAT 5979, DECEMBER 1975).
- 2. FRANCO-MOROCCAN RELATIONS ARE PRESENTLY EXCELLENT, WITH A NUMBER OF LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS FINALLY RESOLVED LAST YEAR AND NO SIGNIFICANT CLOUDS IN VIEW ON HORIZON. FRANCE CONTINUES TO BE MOROCCO'S FIRST TRADING PARTNER AND DEVELOPMENT AID DONOR, AS WELL AS A MAJOR MILITARY SUPPLIER. THAT KING HASSAN INTERESTED IN LONG-TERM, INTIMATE COOPERATION IS REFLECTED IN HIS SEVERAL RECENT PUBLIC REFERENCES TO HOPES THAT NORTH-SOUTH "AXIS", A FULL GEOPOLITICAL PARTNERSHIP OF RABAT, MADRID AND PARIS, WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOP NOW THAT SAHARA PROBLEM "SOLVED" AND NEW DEPARTURES

POSSIBLE FOR SPAIN IN RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO AND EUROPE. KING DOUBTLESSLY WOULD LIKE TO JOIN RANKS OF EUROPEAN HEAVYWEIGHTS, AND HE ALSO MAY WELL BE LOOKING TO PARIS FOR SUPPORT IN TIME OF PARTICULARLY STRAINED MOROCCAN RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA.

3. THE OPPOSITION ISTIQLAL PRESS, MEANWHILE, OBSERVES WITH PLEASURE THE "NEW IMPULSE" IN RELATIONS FOLLOWING "HONORABLE", HELPFUL FRENCH ROLE IN SAHARA AFFAIR. NOTING THAT SOME MINOR TECHHNICAL ISSUES STILL NEED TO BE RESOLVED, ISTIQLAL SEES LITTLE STANDING IN WAY OF "MODEL RELATIONS BETWEEN (THE TWO) INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING STATES."

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